**Fishbowl session**

**Facilitator:** Kees Swans

All participants were requested to stand around the six chairs that makes circle inside and Kees introduced briefly about the Sameon Circle (a discussion tool for conflict resolution).

The questions asked were:

* How compatible are the ideas so far with your agenda?
* How can a future RWM program be linked to the regional and international agenda (broader Nile)?

On the first round a mix of representatives from Donors, Government and NGOs took a seat to respond and then other participants joined the circle.

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| **Institution** | **Responses** |
| CIDA (Donor) | * NRM is a key in all CIDA programs * Small Scale Irrigation, rainwater harvesting and capacity building is also the major programs * So the dialogue is relevant to CIDA’s programs |
| USAID | * USAID support for the value chain program to enhance market * PSNP- Watershed management is part of it * Capacity building * The issue discussed so far is related to USAID supported programs |
| Amhara BoA | * BoA lead government body in NRM area * Technologies and practices to farmers * RWM is a priority agenda for BoA * The discussions are related and interesting for BoA |
| IWMI and ILRI | * NBDC is research for development programe * RWM is a key issue it has been addressing for the last 2 and half years but now come to an end on Dec’13 * This dialogue is designed for taking NBDC issue forward through WLE * WLE is a wide programe that will support government on NRM issues |
| World Bank | * SLM phase 1 : RWM is a core issue * SLM phase 2 is under preparation * Government is committed to watershed management * The discussion are very helpful and relevant to WB’s area of programs |
| OARI | * Question for donors: Most of the donor supported projects like NBDC that are working on NRM issues have short period of time? Is there model site that is known for best practices on SWC that can be an example for us to scale it up to other sites? * Answers by Donors: USAID, CIDA and WB responded that they don’t have their own program on all issues they are rather supporting the government in its development goal. Donors are supporting the implementation of government development plans through giving financial and technical support |
| **Institution** | **Responses** |
| MERET | * All watershed and NRM activities should be supported by research evidences (engaging here Universities to do research is essential) * There is good start in creating this kinds of forum for coordination but still there is a need to have a legal body that will coordinate. For this it is good to have ABA established and it needs support from all of us to lead |
| ARARI | * Question for all of us: Donor supported projects are site specific and successful but they are not sustainable. Why? * ARARI is working on research for extension in collaboration with BoA on different areas including dry land and high rainfall areas |
| Legal advisor to the Amhara President | * Donors support the government plan but still they have their own conditions that need to be met. We have to utilize efficiently their resources and access their technical support. The problem with not efficiently using these opportunity is because of lack of capacity mainly at local level |
| Abay Basin Authority (ABA) | * Established to coordinate Abay Basin Region * Baseline information – hydrological * Socio-economic impacts * Knowledge management * Water resource administration * River basin master plan development * An integrated WSM call for collaboration |
| Bahir Dar University | * Question for NBDC: what is the level of Bahir Dar University? * Bahir Dar University have a goal to become one of the 10 best research universities found in Africa in the year 2025 * Three pillars: teaching and learning, research and community services * Recently established Blue Nile Research Institute * Research for Development mainly in the Abay Basin Region * Bahir Dar University need to be on board to contribute its share * Answer by IWMI: there is NBDC and Bahir Dar University and there is also a plan to handover the hydrological instruments and automatic weather stations installed at Fogera watershed to BDU before the project to close |
| Ambo University | * Like other universities it has three programs: teaching and learning, research and community services * Universities potential in terms of collaborating with development partner and contribute its share to the development agenda in our country is underutilized. * Ambo University was engaged with NBDC and did a lot of joint activities * 4 MSc students sponsored by NBDC and three papers have been published |